

13. The method according to claim 11, wherein the antagonist is a monoclonal antibody.

14. The method according to claim 9, wherein the interleukin-6 antagonist is an antibody against an interleukin-6 receptor.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the antagonist is an antibody against a human interleukin-6 receptor.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the antagonist is a monoclonal antibody.

17. The method according to claim 9, wherein the patient is a human.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the antagonist is administered in four divided doses of from about 1 to 1000 mg.

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19. A method for inhibiting synovial cell growth, comprising ~~the step of~~ administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutical composition comprising an interleukin-6 antagonist and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

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~~20.~~ The method according to claim ¹~~19~~, wherein the interleukin-6 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an interleukin-6 antibody and an interleukin-6 receptor antibody.

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~~21.~~ The method according to claim ²~~20~~, wherein the antagonist is a monoclonal antibody.

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~~22~~. The method according to claim ¹~~19~~, wherein the patient is a human.

a) ⁵
~~23~~. The method according to claim ⁴~~22~~, wherein the antagonist is administered in four divided doses of from about 1 to 1000 mg.--

29